



**Chicago Housing Authority
Board of Commissioners Public Session
Meeting of September 21, 2004
CHAC, 1000 South Wabash, Chicago, IL**

| | Residents Name/Property/ | Question/Comment | Status |
|-----|--------------------------|--|---|
| 1. | Peggy Godfrey | Why are police being pulled out of Rockwell by month's end? According to information gathered at meeting, police will be moved from Rockwell and Horner and sent to Cabrini. | The Henry Horner building located at 1850 W. Washington Blvd. is scheduled to close soon. Therefore, the CPD Public Housing Unit Horner Station located within this building must move. The CPD Horner Station will soon consolidate with the CPD Cabrini Station located within the 365 W. Oak St. building. The CPD Public Housing Unit will continue to provide police services to the residents of both Henry Horner and Rockwell Gardens. <u>There is no planned reduction in police services for any of these sites.</u> |
| 2. | Justean Gaines | Ceded her time to Ms. Deverra Beverly. | N/A |
| 3. | Deverra Beverly | Acknowledged Commissioners and staff for continuous support of ABLA residents. | Comments noted |
| 4. | Esther Jackson | Would like to get back on Section 8 Program. | Referred to Bill Riley, CHAC Director. |
| 5. | Rose Karasti | Representing Chicago Jobs Council (CJC). Would like to caution the Authority's position with regard to 30 hour work requirement. | See answer below |
| 6. | Mary Baldwin | Would like clarification on future plans for Rockwell. Requesting meeting with Board of Commissioners. | A meeting was held with Ms. Baldwin to address concerns. |
| 7. | Shanneta Johnson | Contracts are being given by Eastlake Management and residents are not being hired. Requesting job training for Rockwell residents. | It is the CHA's policy to encourage all contractors to provide economic opportunities for jobs, job training and education through the Federal Section 3 program. More information about current training and job opportunities can be found by contacting Cassandra Seawood, Manager of the Section 3 Program, at 312-742-9547. |
| 8. | Rio Dunning | Does not agree with 30 hour work requirement. Residents unable to find work, job training requested. | See answer below |
| 9. | Dianah Canser | Discouraged with East Lake Management of Rockwell. Not satisfied with unit size and quality of Phase 1. | The replacement units being built at Rockwell are comparable in size and quality to units being built all across the City of Chicago, including affordable and market-rate units. |
| 10. | Mildred Dennis | Taylor residents are ready to move and Capital Construction schedule is off track, Section 8 is late with inspections. | Referred to August Chidichimo and Bill Riley. |
| 11. | Brenda Bolden | Will City/State properties be included in LAC elections? If not, what form of representation will residents have? | Per correspondence from HUD, City/State residents are not eligible to participate in the current LAC election |
| 12. | Francine Washington | Does not agree with 30 hour work requirement. Employers will not hire residents to work 30 hours since they will be required to pay benefits. | See answer below |

**Answer to
comment # 5, 8 &
12**

Work Requirements for Mixed-Income Housing

In order to encourage our residents to embrace self-sufficiency, CHA is implementing a 30-hour per week work policy (as part of the MTSP – Minimum Tenant Selection Plan) for those residents who choose to live in the newly redeveloped mixed-income communities. This policy specifically applies to units at the mixed-income sites and does not affect traditional public housing sites which will undergo rehabilitation.

The work requirement indicates that residents either need to be working at least 30 hours per week or be engaged in a full-time educational program. If a resident is not currently working 30 hours per week, they fall into the next category called ‘working to meet.’ This means that they are involved in job search and/or training, or another approved activity that can lead to economic self-sufficiency. The residents in the ‘working to meet’ category can also be eligible to live in the mixed-income communities, with priority given to residents currently working or enrolled in school full-time.

It is important to note that the public housing units being built in mixed-income communities make up about a quarter of the 25,000 units being built or rehabbed under the Plan for Transformation. We know that 33% of all leaseholders at CHA family developments are currently working and another 17% would be exempt from the work requirement due to a disability. This means that today, about half of CHA families already qualify to live in the mixed-income communities.

We have promised that we will go the extra mile to support our residents by connecting them to social services, job-training and educational programs. We will ask employers to make jobs available and make our residents aware of those jobs. We will do everything we can to help them access opportunities.

If, despite all these efforts, families cannot meet the work requirement, they are still eligible to live in rehabilitated traditional public housing where they will continue to have access to supportive services in order to help them improve their lives.